



How Do European Higher Education Institutions Recognise Student Engagement?

European STEP Project Survey Report



ANNEX 1 – European STEP Survey

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Language:

English



Change the language

European STEP survey on the recognition of student engagement in European Higher Education Institutions



This survey is intended for higher education institutions (HEIs) in the European Union (EU) Member-States and aims at studying the recognition and support mechanisms of student engagement. The purpose is to collect objective data on the institutions' policies in this matter: can students' participation to citizenship-related and solidarity activities, their involvement within their institutions and on campuses, their political and associative commitment lead to formal validation in academic careers?

The survey is part of the Erasmus + European Student Engagement Project (European STEP) led by a consortium of seven European partners: the French students' network Animafac, the European University Foundation from Luxembourg, the Office of Student Life from Dublin City University in Ireland, the University of Cergy-Pontoise in France, the University of Valladolid in Spain, the University of Vienna in Austria and the Volunteer Centre of the University of Warsaw in Poland.

It takes approximately 30 minutes to answer. The survey will be open until March 31th 2019.

Privacy rules:

The information collected through this survey is of an institutional nature and will be communicated to the public only through statistics in the context of the study on student engagement recognition across Higher Education Institutions in the EU. The seven European partners and the associated partners¹ will have access to the raw data. The data will be kept for an unlimited period of time. At the end of the survey you will be asked whether or not you agree to be contacted in the context of the study.

You can contact Lola Bonnet-Pol, European research officer at Animafac (lbonnetpol@animafac.net) for further information on the survey and guarantees about the security of your data.



***Animafac**



¹ The associated partners of the European STEP project are the French Conference of University Rectors, the French Conference des Grandes Ecoles, the French Regional Centres for University and School Works (CROUS) and the European University Association (EUA).


Next

Institutional and Personal Information

*Name of the institution

*Country

Choose one of the following answers

Please choose... 

*What kind of higher education institution do you work in?

- A public university
- A public higher education institution other than university: please specify which type in the comment section
- A private university
- A private higher education institution other than university: please specify which type in the comment section

Please enter your comment here:

*How many students are enrolled in your institution?

Choose one of the following answers

- Less than 1 000
- Between 1 001 and 5 000
- Between 5 001 and 10 000
- Between 10 001 and 20 000
- Between 20 001 and 30 000
- Between 30 001 and 40 000
- Between 40 001 and 50 000
- More than 50 001

*What is your position in the institution? Please describe your title in the corresponding comment box

Comment only when you choose an answer.

Leadership/Management

Academic Staff

Administrative Staff

Other: please specify

*Does your institution have a policy on student engagement?

📌 Choose one of the following answers

🚫 This question is mandatory

- Yes
- No
- Not yet but it is in process
- I don't know

*For your institution, what kind of activities are considered student engagement?

📌 Check all that apply

🚫 This question is mandatory

🚫 Please check at least one item.

🚫 If you choose 'Other:' please also specify your choice in the accompanying text field.

- Activities within the institution
- Activities external to the institution
- Activities between the institution and external entities
- I don't know
- Other:

📌 Examples of activities within the institution that could be considered student engagement: peer-mentoring activities, sporting activities, activities in student associations, activities in student unions etc.

Examples of activities external to the institution that could be considered student engagement: activities in NGOs or solidarity organizations, cultural activities, political involvement, etc.

*Select the activities within the institution considered as student engagement:

📌 Check all that apply

🚫 This question is mandatory

🚫 Please check at least one item.

🚫 If you choose 'Other: please specify' please also specify your choice in the accompanying text field.

- Activities in student associations
- Activities in student unions (syndicates)
- Artistic and cultural activities
- Mandates as student representatives (e.g. participation in the board of the IT department)
- Participation in University Law Clinics
- Peer-mentoring activities
- Sporting activities
- Short-term projects or events
- Other: please specify

*Select the activities external to the institution considered as student engagement:

📌 Check all that apply

🚫 This question is mandatory

🚫 Please check at least one item.

🚫 If you choose 'Other: please specify' please also specify your choice in the accompanying text field.

- Activities for health promotion
- Activities within Non-Governmental Organisations / Associations / Youth organisations & citizenship-related activities
- Artistic and cultural activities
- Firefighter activities
- Involvement in political parties
- Involvement in unions
- Mandates outside the institution (e.g. representative in municipalities and other political mandates)
- Mentoring activities
- Activities in religious associations
- Sporting activities
- Other types of organisations
- Other: please specify

*For the activities in cooperation between the institution and external entities considered as student engagement, please specify:

📌 Comment only when you choose an answer.

🚫 This question is mandatory

🚫 Please check at least one item.

- The types of activities
- The types of external entities

*Does your institution have a structure / unit / department dedicated to student engagement?

📌 Choose one of the following answers

🚫 This question is mandatory

- Yes, and it is a unit dedicated to this matter only
- Yes, and the unit takes charge of student engagement among other responsibilities
- No
- No, but we are planning to have one
- I don't know
- Other: please specify in the comment box

Please enter your comment here:

*How has the importance of student engagement changed over the past six years for your institution?

Choose one of the following answers

This question is mandatory

- Substantially increased
- Increased
- Stayed the same
- Decreased
- Substantially decreased
- I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

Six years ago, in December 2012, the EU Council adopted a recommendation to encourage the Member-States to set up validation measures for informal and non-formal learnings.

*Does your institution collect data about student engagement?

Choose one of the following answers

This question is mandatory

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

*What data do you collect?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

This question is mandatory

Please check at least one item.

If you choose 'Other: please specify' please also specify your choice in the accompanying text field.

On student engagement behaviour (the activities, the organisations)

On motivation for student engagement

On the impacts of student engagement

On the effects of support mechanisms for student engagement

Quantitative data: the number of engaged students

Other: please specify

Please specify the number (and explain if relevant):

Modalities of student engagement recognition

With the aim to identify the different practices of higher education institutions in the European Union, this section seeks to understand if and why your institution recognises or not student engagement, and if it does, how. What form can recognition take? Can all types of engagement be recognised? Does it apply for every cycle of study and for all students?

★How does your institution recognise student engagement?

📌 Check all that apply

- ECTS credits for student engagement activities
- Integration of student engagement as part of the curricula in some of the institution's study programmes
- Integration of student engagement as part of curricula across the institution
- Possibility to get student engagement recognised through an elective module
- Validation of the skills acquired through the experience of engagement
- Annex to the diploma mentioning the activities of engagement
- Annex to the diploma mentioning the skills acquired through the engagement of the student
- Possibility for engaged students to adapt their academic timetables
- Specific status for engaged students (e.g. status of "student association leader" and "Engaged Student")
- Training sessions for engaged students (for instance to help them identify the skills they acquired during their experiences)
- Valorisation of student engagement: dedicated space for associations, possibility to set up events within the campus institution, institutional communication on students' activities
- Award ceremony or deliverance of an award for engaged students
- Certificate of engagement
- Extra-points (bonus points) for student engagement activities
- The institution does not recognise in any way student engagement
- I don't know
- Other: please specify

If the answer is "The institution does not recognise in any way student engagement":

★Please select the main reasons why in the list below:

📌 Check all that apply

- It would not fit with the institution's traditions to take measures to recognise student engagement.
- The institution considers that students' participation in extracurricular activities is a private, non-university matter and make a distinction between academic curricula and extracurricular life.
- The institution would like to implement recognition measures, but the institution is too bureaucratic to change.
- The legal framework in the country makes things difficult.

- The institution lacks means to implement recognition measures.
- There were internal disagreements within the institution and no agreements could be reached.
- There is a lack of interest on the part of the teaching staff.
- There is a lack of interest on the part of the institution's governance.
- It is not stipulated by the law.
- The institution used to recognise student engagement but it not the case anymore.
- I don't know
- Other:

*Please explain why the institution does not recognise student engagement anymore:

*Regardless of student engagement, does your institution recognise informal and non-formal learnings and the skills acquired through these forms of learnings?

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

📘 **Informal learning:** "Learning resulting from daily activities related to work, family or leisure. It is not organised or structured in terms of objectives, time or learning support. Informal learning is in most cases unintentional from the learner's perspective". (Also referred to as experiential or incidental/random learning).

📖 **Non-formal learning:** "Learning embedded in planned activities not explicitly designated as learning (in terms of learning objectives, learning time or learning support). Non-formal learning is intentional from the learner's point of view". (Sometimes described as semi-structured learning).

[Source:](#) *Terminology of European Education and Training Policy*, Second Edition, Cedefop 2014

*Regardless of student engagement, does your institution use a skills portfolio (Europass or equivalent) for its students in the framework of the curriculum?

🗳️ Choose one of the following answers

- Yes
- No
- The institution is currently implementing such portfolio
- I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

If the answer is different than “The institution does not recognise in any way student engagement”:

*For each type of measures, please select which type of engagement it can (will) apply to:

	Mandates as student representatives (e.g. participation in the board of the IT department)	Mandates outside the institution (e.g. representative in municipalities)	Mentoring activities	Political engagement (unions and political parties)	Engagement into NGOs, non-profit associations, students' organisations & citizenship-related activities	None	I don't know
ECTS credits for student engagement activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integration of student engagement as part of the curricula in some of the institution's study programmes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integration of student engagement as part of curricula across the institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Possibility to get student engagement recognised through an elective module	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Annex to the diploma	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Possibility for engaged students to adapt their academic timetables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specific status for engaged students (e.g. status of "student association leader" and "Engaged Student")	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Valorisation of student engagement (dedicated space for associations, events, communication campaigns)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Award ceremony or deliverance of an award for engaged students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Certificate of engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extra benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If there are other recognition measures for other types of student engagement, please explain:

*Does (will) your institution recognise all levels of engagement?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

- Regular engagement in the same activity for one semester or more
- Semi-regular engagement in different activities during one semester
- Event-based engagement for one-two days in different fields
- I don't know

*Does (will) your institution recognise competences that are not explicitly mentioned in learning outcomes or other official documents on curriculum expectations through student engagement recognition?

Choose one of the following answers

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

*Please specify which additional competences are (will be) recognised:

*Which students can (will) benefit from this/these measures?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

- All students
- Part-time students
- Full-time students
- International students
- I don't know

Other:

*Is there a centralised strategy for the whole institution regarding student engagement recognition?

Choose one of the following answers

- Yes, there is a centralised strategy
- No, it is decentralised
- I don't know

*For which cycle of study is it (will it be) possible for students to benefit from this system of recognition?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

- Bachelor (1st cycle)
- Master (2nd cycle)
- PhD (3rd cycle)
- None
- I don't know

*If your institution has already set up recognition measures for student engagement, when were they implemented for the first time?

Choose one of the following answers

Please choose...

*If your institution is in the process of implementing student engagement, when did the process start?

Choose one of the following answers

- More than 5 years ago
- 5-3 years ago
- 3-1 years ago
- Less than a year ago
- I don't know

Please enter your comment here:

When will these measures become effective?

Choose one of the following answers

Please choose...

Implementation of student engagement recognition

This section focuses on the efforts to raise awareness and implement the recognition of student engagement within your institution .

*In your institution, what actions are implemented to make students and administrative and teaching staffs aware of the possibilities of student engagement recognition?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information meetings for students | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information meetings for the administrative and teaching staffs | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication campaigns on the campuses (e.g. posters, flyers, etc.) | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication campaigns through the main channels of the institution's social medias | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication campaigns through the social media channels of different faculties and units | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Festivals, fairs and various promoting events on the topic | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conferences, forums and other accademic events on the topic | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't know | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | <input type="text"/> |
| Other: please specify <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

*Who initiated the process for the implementation of student engagement recognition?

Comment only when you choose an answer.

<input type="checkbox"/> Students and student organisations	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Teaching staff	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Professional and support staff: (please specify from which department if possible)	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> President / Rectorate of the institution	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> External organisations, associations & NGOs	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> A consortium of higher education institutions (to which the institution belongs) initiated the process to set up a framework for student engagement recognition	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	<input type="text"/>
Other: please specify <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

What are the necessary conditions to succeed in implementing student engagement recognition measures?

What are the main barriers to implementing measures for the recognition of student engagement?

Final questions

Are you aware of any legislation or policy framework for the recognition of student engagement by higher education institutions?

	Yes	No	No answer
National legislation or policy framework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
European framework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Please explain briefly what you know:

*Would you like to receive updates on the European STEP project?



Yes



No

*Please leave your email to receive updates on the European STEP project:

*Can we contact you in the context of the European STEP project for more information on your experience?



Yes



No

*You agree to be contacted:

📌 Comment only when you choose an answer.

📌 Please select at least 3 answers

First Name

Surname

Email

Is there any additional information that you want to share?

If you want to share with us any document (institutional documents, studies, figures or any relevant data on the matter)

📌 Please upload at most 10 files

📁 Upload files

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